



10/8/98 Inhalation of Chemicals

A high-pressure six-inch diameter line in a chemical process industry burst, releasing over fifteen tons of toxic gas into the atmosphere.

Four workers, located near the ruptured pipe, inhaled silicon tetrachloride and trichlorosilane gases resulting in hospitalization. Sixteen days after the incident one worker died, and a second died approximately five weeks later. The ruptured pipe had worn thin internally.

Questions to ask?

- Does your plant need to apply the Process Safety Standard for Highly Hazardous Chemicals?
- If so, have all design specifications been met and the appropriate checks and inspections been informed to assure the integrity of piping and delivery systems?
- Has an emergency action plan been developed?